

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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14-11

ACTION IO-10

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAM-01

AF-06 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-09 /113 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9955

UNCLAS USUN 1266

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UN XF

SUBJ: SYG'S COMMENTS TO PRESS ON MIDDLE EAST

1. ANSWERING QUESTIONS ON MIDDLE EAST APRIL 17, SYG SAID TWO CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE ARE IN CONTACT WITH PARTIES CONCERNED, AND HE IN TURN IS IN CONTACT WITH THE CO-CHAIRMEN AND PARTIES. WALDHEIM SAID NO DECISION HAD UP TO NOW BEEN MADE TO RECONVENE GENEVA CONFERENCE. AS HE HAS IN PAST, HE COMMENTED THAT STEP-BY-STEP AND MULTILATERAL APPROACHES WERE COMPLEMENTARY, NOT MUTUALLY EXCLUSIVE.

2. WALDHIEM EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR "DEDICATED WORK OF DR. KISSINGER" IN CARRYING OUT STEP-BY-STEP POLICY. HE BELIEVED ALL SIDES WERE INTERESTED IN A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT; HOWEVER, PROBLEM COULD NOT BE SOLVED IN A FEW WEEKS OR A FEW MONTHS-- IMPORTANT THING WAS TO MAKE PROGRESS. SYG SAID HIS IMPRESSION WAS THAT PARTIES INVOLVED WERE STILL VERY INTERESTED IN A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT. ONE THING WAS CLEAR-- A GENEVA CONFERENCE MUST BE WELL PREPARED. IT MUST AVOID BECOMING A GENERAL DEBATE--TYPE ASSEMBLY WHICH WOULD ONLY CONTRIBUTE TO FURTHER DETERIORATION OF THE SITUATION.
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